

Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

MINUTES of the MEETING

held in the Soudley Hall on the 12th April, 2016

(These minutes remain in draft form until approved at the next meeting of the Council)

Parish Councillors Present:

J. Stanford, Chairman
Cllrs. S. Phelps, C. Hawkins,
B. Rhodes, C. Richardson,
B. Acland, T. Matthews & N. Bowes.

The Clerk - Mrs. Helen Hook.

Public:

Three members of the public were present.

County Councillor Present:

R. Leppington & G. Morgan.

District Councillor Present:

None present.

Apologies:

B. O'Neill & D. Hawthorne.

Standing Declarations of Interest

- (a) Dean Heritage Museum Trust - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Phelps.
- (b) Soudley Village Hall Committee - Insignificant personal interest by Cllrs. Hawkins & Stanford.
- (c) Great Oaks Hospice - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Hawkins.
- (d) Ruspidge Memorial Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Bowes.

Vernon Smith, County Cabinet Member for Highways and Floods explained the situation and pressures that Highways are facing.

- Strategy - changed from proactive to reactive.
- Revenue budget -
1998 - £28 million (tarmac £20 tonne); 2016 - £19 million (tarmac £140 per tonne).
- Major resurfacing programmes -
2013 backlog £100 million; 2016 reduced to £86 million.
- Highways Local Allowance £30,00 each councillor -
(Richard Leppington [Soudley] ; Graham Morgan [Ruspidge]).
- Lengthsman Schemes - small jobs - verges; clean signs, clear gully grips, etc.
- Flood Alleviation Fund £2.1 million.
- Contract - schedule of rates, not day work as previously.
- No money for road safety; landslips (bids have to be put to central government).
- Prioritisation is difficult - changes daily.
- Potholes - crew takes a photo before/during/after.
- Major roads have temporary repairs for safety and if resurfacing is scheduled.

The chairman thanked him for the honest account.

1. Cinderford Town Youth U13's declared an interest in using the football field.
This was further discussed under RWT business. See below.

RUSPIDGE WELFARE TRUST

Council were mindful that these items were considered and determined as trustees to the RWT.

1. Following Ruspidge United Football Club's withdrawal from the league council have requested the club arrange for the removal of the existing changing units which they had installed.
2. Cinderford Youth are interested in using the pitch and will supply and manage a portable on site toilet and provide a reputable contractor to mark the pitch. The cost for hire, pitch only, will be £20 per game to increase when facilities are available.
3. Co-op A/c - new signatories HH/SRP/WAC.
4. Recreation Field - Signs have been displayed requesting gates to be closed after use due to boar activity in the local area.

4. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 8th March, 2016 were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

4.1 **MATTERS ARISING** from the Minutes.

Ruspidge Recreation Field - the side gate has been repaired.

Forest of Dean Health Forum - grant request deferred to May meeting.

Buckshaft Road/Fir View footpath (DRP 8) - after viewing alternative options Council **APPROVED** the purchase/installation of a motorbike restriction barrier with metal posts instead of a hoop barrier.

4.2 **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

- Richard Leppington to arrange for his parish council's to have a sub-committee to meet regularly with Brian Watkins, Highways.
Graham Morgan already meets with Brian Watkins, RSPC & Cinderford TC Clerk's.
Council will appoint a rep for both villages in its May meeting.
- Government - all schools to become Academies - concern for primary schools.
- small village schools may be forced to close.
- Cinderford Leisure Centre - school agreed to keep open until August - longer term solution to be determined.
- Full Council - refugees.
- System of Governance - committee not cabinet.
- Devolution stalled - Government preferred single elected mayor.

4.3 **PLANNING** – Completed Schedule attached as an Appendix to these Minutes.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

4.4 Following report by the Treasurer the Council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for payment totalling £3564.36, this figure being inclusive of confidential expenditure.

4.5 Council received the end of year Expenditure and Income Summary Sheets.

4.6 Grant Requests - Under Section 137 of the LGA 1972 the Council considered the following:

- a) CANDI - £250 **APPROVED**. To be invited to a future meeting.
- b) St. John's Church - £200 **APPROVED**.

4.7 Ruspidge Memorial Hall - Council officially **APPROVED** the additional work for the lower hall, quoted at £890 plus VAT.

4.8 St. White's School - Council received a request to consider protecting the building through the Listed Building system. Council **RESOLVED** to **DECLINE** the request.

CORRESPONDENCE

4.9 The Council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence:

- a. Katie Auld - Ruspidge Early Learners - resignation.
- b. PC Evans - Police parish report (fwded).
- c. Anon - flats above Rusp Rec. Field - scrap cars in car park spaces.
- d. FODDC - Cind. Leisure Centre remaining open while further negotiations take place.
- e. Peter Tapson, via web - Speeding St. White's Road.

4.10 **Next Meeting** - The next meeting of the Council is to be held in the **Ruspidge Hall** at 7.00pm **Tuesday, 10th May, 2016.**

The agenda deadline is Monday, 2nd May, 2016.

4.11 **Exclusion of the Press and the Public** - The Council **RESOLVED** that for any remaining business of a confidential nature the press and the public should be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Standing Order (2016) No. 55.

Signed: Chair. Dated:

Planning Schedule for the meeting on 12th April, 2016

Planning Reference:
Site Address & Detail

Parish
Comment

P0351/16/FUL

No objs.

Winter Cottage, 15 Peacock Lane, Ruspidge, Cinderford.

First floor extension to existing dwelling.

Enforcement - Re: 17 Railway Road.

Council noted the patio doors and windows on the existing garage and requested that FODDC Enforcement Section investigate.

P1372/15/FUL

No objs.

17 Railway Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire.

Conversion of attic space with six dormer windows, single storey extension to kitchen and driveway to the rear of dwelling to create two parking spaces.

***Enforcement Reply** - The conversion of the garage does not require planning permission. The works have been carried out under permitted development rights and there is no material change of use. The case was therefore closed.*

Council noted the comments and determined **NO FURTHER ACTION.**

Decisions notified by the Planning Authority

Planning Reference
Site Address & Detail

Parish
Comment

District
Decision

P0170/16/FUL

No obj.

REFUSED

1 The Clusters, Bradley Hill, Soudley, Cinderford.

Proposed two storey extension and alterations to existing dwelling and erection of a new double garage.

P0163/16/OUT

(Previous PC Response No obj.)

No obj.

PERMIT

Land At Bracken Close, Buckshaft Road, Ruspidge, Gloucestershire.

Outline application for the erection of 3 dwellings with ancillary works (renewal of consent).

P1344/15/OUT

Obj.

REFUSED

Land Off Top Road, Upper Soudley, Cinderford, Gloucestershire.

Outline application for the erection of up to 5 dwelling houses and associated infrastructure.

P1372/15/FUL

No objs.

PERMIT

17 Railway Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire.

Conversion of attic space with six dormer windows, single storey extension to kitchen and driveway to the rear of dwelling to create two parking spaces.

Signed: Dated: